

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 675 without my signature.

This bill would declare the legislative intent that any peace officer who seizes a vehicle for driving while unlicensed or driving with a suspended license, shall provide transportation for all persons traveling in the vehicle. This bill is unnecessary because current law provides an appropriate incentive for peace officers to make necessary arrangements to ensure the safety of all occupants.

The provisions of this bill intend to restrict law enforcement by mandating that transportation be provided in a specified manner. Officers are trained to use their best judgment in each situation to decide where the safest location to transport individuals left stranded after the seizure of a vehicle. The intent of this bill would severely affect law enforcement's ability to maintain the current level of service provided to the public, especially in rural areas where only one or two units may be on duty during night shifts. In every area of the state, public safety could be compromised by requiring officers to take time to transport people for potentially long distances to the specified locations in statute when they should be responding to emergencies, aiding disabled motorists, or proactively seeking DUI drivers.

For these reason I am unable to sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger